Arrangement Plan:

Harry Potter and the Wizarding World Collection

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LIM 599: Archives and Archival Management

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Arrange scheme

The Harry Potter and the Wizarding World Collection (1965-2021) comprises manuscripts, photographs, voice recordings, home movies, ephemera, and artifacts related to J. K. Rowling's Harry Potter novels and films and their off-shoots, as well as other materials that would be of interest to fans and researchers of Harry Potter, materials that shed light on Rowling's personal life and creative process. Some of these other materials include the personal records of Rowling and records related to her other writing.

Roughly half of the collection was donated by Rowling. The other half came from Warner Bros.' many warehouses of files, props, and set pieces from the Harry Potter and Fantastic Beasts films, as well as materials donated to Warner Bros. from others involved, including writers, directors, cast, and crew members.

The collection is arranged in 11 series, some of which are further divided into subseries and sub-subseries and beyond as natural divisions become apparent. To maintain the provenance of materials, those that originated from Rowling were kept separate from those that originated elsewhere, even though Rowling frequently comes up or appears in the latter. The items were divided by material: papers, photographs, hard drives of digital correspondence, voice recordings, videos, Rowling's personal library, and artwork and ephemera.

Series I: J. K. Rowling Papers (1965-2021)

This series comprises Rowling's own records, including personal correspondence, notes, outlines, and drafts. This series is divided into two subseries. There was a natural break in the materials created before Harry Potter and those created after.

55 boxes

Subseries A: 1965-1990 (Before Harry Potter)

Subseries B: 1990-2021

Sub-subseries 1: Personal (1990-2021) – **Restricted until Rowling's passing**

Sub-subseries 2: Harry Potter and the Wizarding World (1990-2021)

Sub-sub-subseries a: Correspondence

Sub-sub-subseries b: Notes, outlines, and drafts

Sub-subseries 3: Other writing

Series II: Harry Potter Films Papers (1999-2021)

These records are directly related to the film adaptations of the Harry Potter series, including correspondence, records related to the development of the script, and production records. This series is divided into eight subseries, one for each film.

50 boxes

Subseries A: *Harry Potter and the Philosopher's Stone (Sorcerer's Stone)* (1999-2001)

Sub-subseries 1: Correspondence

Sub-subseries 2: Scripts and notes

Sub-subseries 3: Production documents

Subseries B: *Harry Potter and the Chamber of Secrets* (2000-2002)

Sub-subseries 1: Correspondence

Sub-subseries 2: Scripts and notes

Sub-subseries 3: Production documents

Subseries C: *Harry Potter and the Prisoner of Azkaban* (2001-2004)

Sub-subseries 1: Correspondence

Sub-subseries 2: Scripts and notes

Sub-subseries 3: Production documents

Subseries D: *Harry Potter and the Goblet of Fire* (2002-2005)

Sub-subseries 1: Correspondence

Sub-subseries 2: Scripts and notes

Sub-subseries 3: Production documents

Subseries E: *Harry Potter and the Order of the Phoenix* (2003-2007)

Sub-subseries 1: Correspondence

Sub-subseries 2: Scripts and notes

Sub-subseries 3: Production documents

Subseries F: *Harry Potter and the Half-Blood Prince* (2005-2009)

Sub-subseries 1: Correspondence

Sub-subseries 2: Scripts and notes

Sub-subseries 3: Production documents

Subseries G: *Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows Part 1* (2006-2010)

Sub-subseries 1: Correspondence

Sub-subseries 2: Scripts and notes

Sub-subseries 3: Production documents

Subseries H: *Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows Part 2* (2006-2011)

Sub-subseries 1: Correspondence

Sub-subseries 2: Scripts and notes

Sub-subseries 3: Production documents

Series III: Fantastic Beasts Films Papers (2014-2021)

These records are directly related to the Fantastic Beasts franchise, including correspondence, records related to the development of the script, and production records. This series is divided into two subseries, one for each film. More are expected to be added as more films are created.

10 boxes

Subseries A: *Fantastic Beasts and Where to Find Them* (2014-2016)

Sub-subseries 1: Correspondence

Sub-subseries 2: Scripts and notes

Sub-subseries 3: Production documents

Subseries B: *Fantastic Beasts: The Crimes of Grindlewald* (2014-2018)

Sub-subseries 1: Correspondence

Sub-subseries 2: Scripts and notes

Sub-subseries 3: Production documents

Series IV: Photographs (1965-2021)

These photographs are divided into two subseries. Subseries A was donated by Rowling and covers all aspects of her life and history, including those related to the Harry Potter/Fantastic Beasts films. Subseries B originated from people other than Rowling and are all related to the Harry Potter/Fantastic Beasts films.

8 boxes

Subseries A: J. K. Rowling personal photographs (1965-2021)

Subseries B: Harry Potter/Fantastic Beasts film photographs (1999-2021)

Series V: J. K. Rowling correspondence hard drive (1995-2021)

This hard drive contains email correspondence between Rowling and others regarding Harry Potter, both the books and the films, as well as Fantastic Beasts.

1 box

Series VI: J. K. Rowling voice recorders (1990-2007)

Rowling donated these voice recorders which contain notes to herself about the process of writing the novels. *These audio files have been copied to the Harry Potter and the Wizarding World Collection digital library.*

1 box

Series VII: J. K. Rowling videos (1965-2021)

Rowling donated these home videos. Subseries A contains film reels and VHS from Rowling's life before Harry Potter. Subseries B contains films from after she came up with the idea of Harry Potter, including films of award shows and red carpets for the film adaptations. Subseries B also contains a hard drive of digital videos.

6 boxes.

Subseries A: 1965-1990

Subseries B: 1990-2021

Series VIII: J. K. Rowling artwork (1990-2021)

This series contains Rowling's personal drawings and other artwork, some related to Harry Potter/Fantastic Beasts, and some not.

8 boxes

Series IX: J. K. Rowling library (1977-2018)

J. K. Rowling's personal library of signed Harry Potter books as well as her personal copies of her own favorite books, with notes and highlighted passages.

21 boxes

Series X: J. K. Rowling miscellaneous (1982-2021)

This series contains objects (Subseries A) and ephemera (Subseries B) donated from Rowling, including the typewriter upon which she wrote the first few Harry Potter books.

12 boxes

Subseries A: Objects

Subseries B: Ephemera

Series XI: Harry Potter/Fantastic Beasts films miscellaneous (1999-2021)

The items in this series are from the Warner Bros. warehouses. They contain certain props, set pieces, and ephemera that might be of particular interest.

20 boxes

Subseries A: Props and set pieces

Subseries B: Ephemera

Arrangement Scheme Explanation

Maintaining the original provenance is usually the best way to arrange an archive, and that was our goal for the Harry Potter and the Wizarding World Collection. We received materials from two main sources: J. K. Rowling herself and Warner Bros. Entertainment, Inc. Though certain materials from Rowling would fit with some Warner Bros. materials, and vice versa, keeping them separate imposed less interpretation and interference by the archivists.

After making the decision to keep the Rowling materials and the Warner materials separate, we decided to further separate them by format, creating 11 series altogether. Separating items by format makes them more easily discoverable through the finding aid and easier to arrange on the shelves. It could make sense to place Rowling's voice recordings about *Harry Potter and the Prisoner of Azkaban* with the *Prisoner of Azkaban* paper records because they were created around the same time and serve similar purposes, but this would create confusion and make it more difficult for patrons to compare all of the voice recordings with each other.

Generally speaking, the first series contains the most materials and the most obvious research value, the second series contains the second most, and so on.

Series I: J. K. Rowling Papers (1965-2021)

This series is divided into two subseries: A: 1965-1990, and B: 1990-2021. It was in 1990 that Rowling first conceived of Harry Potter, and there is a distinct, noticeable difference between the records before Harry Potter's conception and those after. Though most of the post-1990 records are related to Harry Potter, not all of them are, which is why we divided Subseries B into the three Sub-subseries.

Series II: Harry Potter Films Papers (1999-2021)

Series II is a compilation of the Harry Potter film series, containing documentation pertaining to the production of the films. The series is dedicated solely to the Harry Potter franchise, with each subsequent series in Series II being directly related to a single film in the franchise. This arrangement allows for easy processing of current and future material, and to ensure discoverability for our patrons.

Series III: Fantastic Beasts Films Papers (2014-2021)

The films and papers found in Series III were separated to reflect materials relating to *Fantastic Beasts*. Each subsequent subseries, like those in Series II, relate to the individual films within the franchise for ease of processing future material to be added, and discoverability for patrons.

Series IV: Photographs (1965-2021)

Series IV: Photographs is the only series that contains both Rowling materials and Warner Bros. materials. However, we still maintained provenance and kept the materials separate by dividing the photographs into two subseries: those that originated from Rowling and those that originated elsewhere. We put the photographs in one series rather than two for ease of discoverability and so patrons could easily compare the photos with each other.

Series V: J. K. Rowling correspondence hard drive (1995-2021) &

Series VI: J. K. Rowling voice recorders (1990-2007)

As suggested above, one could make the argument that the content on the hard drive and the voice recorders is not so different from that of the papers. However, we decided that mixing the formats together would disrupt the provenance and make discoverability overly complicated for researchers. It makes further sense to keep the formats separate as the content of the hard

drive and the voice recorders have been made available online in the digital archive, but the paper records have not been digitized yet.

Series VII: J. K. Rowling videos (1965-2021)

Like the papers, this series has been divided into two subseries—A: 1965-1990, and B: 1990-2021—because of how Harry Potter-centric the videos become after 1990. All of the videos have been kept together in one series, despite being in different formats, because they all represent the same moving image medium and because this is a relatively small series within the larger collection.

Series VIII: J. K. Rowling artwork (1990-2021), Series IX: J. K. Rowling library, & Series X: J. K. Rowling miscellaneous (1982-2021)

The J. K. Rowling miscellaneous items simply would not fit in any other series. We considered including Rowling's artwork and her personal library under the miscellaneous heading, but we decided that the artwork and the library were distinct enough and large enough to justify their own individual series.

Series XI: Harry Potter/Fantastic Beasts films miscellaneous (1999-2021)

Like the J. K. Rowling miscellaneous items, the Harry Potter and Fantastic Beast film miscellaneous items are materials accumulated before, during, and after filming that could not otherwise be categorized under another label. Props, set pieces, posters, and other ephemera were determined to be unique and of vast importance to the collection to constitute its own series.

Front Matter

Abstract: The Harry Potter and the Wizarding World Collection (1965-2021) comprises manuscripts, photographs, voice recordings, home movies, ephemera, and artifacts related to J. K. Rowling's Harry Potter novels and films and their off-shoots, as well as other materials that would be of interest to fans and researchers of Harry Potter, materials that shed light on Rowling's personal life and creative process. The collection is arranged in 11 series, some of which are further divided into subseries and sub-subseries.

Title: The Harry Potter and the Wizarding World Collection

Language of Material: English

Collection Number: 07311965

Dates: 1965-2021

Size: 250 linear feet

Extent: 192 boxes and individual items

Repository: Warner Bros. Archives
USC School of Cinematic Arts
3716 South Hope Street #113
Los Angeles, CA 90089

Subject Headings:

Rowling, J.K.
See also Galbraith, Robert

Rowling, J. K.--Characters--Harry Potter.

Rowling, J. K.--Characters--Harry Potter--Handbooks, manuals, etc.

Warner Bros. Archives

Warner Bros. Entertainment

Access: With the exception of restricted materials, this collection is open for research. Restricted materials include Series 1, Subseries B, Sub-subseries 1: J. K. Rowling's Personal Papers. To schedule a research visit or to submit a research request, please fill out the WBA Request Form. Additional inquiries can be directed to wbarchives@cinema.usc.edu

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Citation: When quoting material from this collection the preferred citation is:

> The Harry Potter and the Wizarding World Collection. 1965-2021. [Box #, Folder #]. Warner Bros. Archives, USC School of Cinematic Arts.

Creator: USC School of Cinematic Arts, Curators and Students

Acknowledgments: Items in this collection were donated by Warner Bros., J. K. Rowling, writers, directors, cast, and crew members. Funding for this collection was provided by Warner Bros.

Note: Additional items will be added to the collection as they become available and are determined to be appropriate for the collection (for example, donations from future publications and movies). Restricted items belonging to J. K. Rowling will be donated upon her passing.

Historical Note

Joanne Rowling CH, OBE, HonFRSE, FRCPE, FRSL (1965 -), is a British author, philanthropist, film producer, television producer, and screenwriter. She goes by the name of Jo. She has also gone by the names Joanne Murray, Joanne Kathleen Rowling, and her pen names J.K. Rowling and Robert Galbraith. Born on July 31, 1965, in Yate, Gloucestershire, Rowling grew up in Gloucestershire in England and in Chepstow, Gwent, in south-east Wales. Jo's father, Peter Rowling, was an aircraft engineer at the Rolls Royce factory in Bristol and her mother, Anne, was a science technician in the Chemistry department at Wyedean School and College. Anne was diagnosed with multiple sclerosis and died in 1990. Rowling has a younger sister, Dianne.

As a child, Rowling attended St. Michael's Primary School, Wyedean School and College. She earned a Bachelor of Arts in French and Classics at the University of Exeter in Exeter, Devon, England. Her course of study required her to study in Paris for a year.

After University Rowling worked for Amnesty International in London as a researcher and bilingual secretary. She then moved to Manchester and worked at the Chamber of Commerce. On a train trip to London from Manchester that was delayed by 4 hours, Rowling came up with the concept for Harry Potter. In 1990 Rowling moved to Porto, Portugal to teach English as a Foreign language. After 18 months she met Portuguese television journalist Jorge Arantes. They married on October 16, 1992. Their daughter Jessica Isabel Rowling Arantes was born on July 27, 1993. Rowling and Jorge separated on November 17, 1993. In December of 1993 Rowling and her daughter moved to Edinburgh, Scotland to be closer to Dianne. Rowling filed for divorce in August 1994.

On December 26, 2001, Rowling married Neil Murray (1971 -) a Scottish doctor. Their son David Gordon Rowling Murray was born on March 24, 2003. Rowling's youngest child Mackenzie Jean Rowling Murray was born on January 23, 2005.

Rowling was named the first person to become a US-dollar billionaire by writing books in 2004 in Forbes. She was frequently on the Forbes rich list.

Harry Potter

Rowling came up with the idea of Harry Potter while delayed on a train in 1990. She wrote the ideas on any scrap of paper she could find. Over the next five years, she mapped out all seven books in the series. When Rowling left Portugal she had completed the first three chapters of *Harry Potter and the Philosopher's Stone*. Rowling wrote the first novel in many cafes

whenever she could get her daughter to fall asleep. She finished the manuscript for *Harry Potter and the Philosopher's Stone* in 1995. The Christopher Little Literary Agency agreed to represent Rowling as her publisher. The manuscript was sent and rejected by 12 publishing houses. In 1996 Bloomsbury agreed to publish the novel. The initial print was only for 1,000 copies. 500 of those copies were sent to libraries. *Harry Potter and the Philosopher's Stone* won a Nestlé Smarties Book Prize, the British Book Award for Children's Book of the Year, and the Children's Book Award. In 1998 the book went up for auction for publishing rights in the United States and Scholastic Inc. won with $105,000. The US version was published with the name change *Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone*. *Harry Potter and the Chamber of Secrets* was published in July 1998 and *Harry Potter and the Prisoner of Azkaban* in December 1999. Both books won the Nestlé Smarties Book Prize. The next books in the series are *Harry Potter and the Goblet of Fire* (July 2000), *Harry Potter and the Order of the Phoenix* (June 2003), *Harry Potter and the Half-Blood Prince* (July 2005), *Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows* (July 2007). Each of the last four books set and broke the predecessor's record for the fastest-selling book of all time. *Deathly Hallows* sold 11 million copies on its first day.

In October 1998 Warner Bros. purchased the film rights to the first two novels and subsequently purchased the rest. Rowling assisted the writers of the screenplays to help make sure they stuck to the plot of books that had not yet been released. She was a producer on the final two films. In September of 2013 Warner Bros. announced they were planning a series of films based on a character in the Harry Potter franchise. Rowling wrote the screenplays for each of the new films.

In October of 2015, it was announced that Rowling, Jack Thorne, and John Tiffany had written a play taking place after the final book, *Harry Potter and the Cursed Child*. The play is

staged in two parts. It was enthusiastically received critically and won nine Laurence Olivier Awards and six Tonys. It was staged in London, Broadway, San Francisco, Toronto, Melbourne, Hamburg, and Tokyo.

Other Works

On September 27, 2012, Rowling released her first non-Harry Potter novel title *The Casual Vacancy*. The book was targeted to adults and in the first three weeks of release sold 1 million copies worldwide. It was adapted into a miniseries and released in 2015.

In April of 2013 *The Cuckoo's Calling*, the first in the Cormoran Strike series, came out under the pen name of Robert Galbraith. The book received acclaim but did not sell well until Rowling was uncovered as the author. There are four subsequent novels in the series: The *Silkworm* (2014), *Career of Evil* (2015), *Lethal White* (2018), *Troubled Blood* (2020). In 2017 BBC released a television show titled Cormoran Strike.

In 2020 Rowling published a new children's story online titled *The Ickabog*. It was written in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. The print edition was released on November 10, 2020, and all proceeds were donated to charities helping those impacted by Covid-19.

In October of 2021, Rowling released a new children's novel titled *The Christmas Pig*.

Scope and Content Note

The Harry Potter and the Wizarding World Collection comprise the personal effects of J. K. Rowling's estate, in addition to the material related to that of the *Harry Potter* and *Fantastic Beasts* film franchises. Personal papers, correspondence, scripts, production documents, photographs, props, and ephemera document the curation of *Harry Potter* and *Fantastic Beasts.*

This is a unique collection in that it evidences the work from the imagination of J. K. Rowling to the publication of the book series to production of film adaptations from 1965-2021.The collection provides researchers with access to authentic records meant to inspire and encourage storytelling, and reach the fanbase to provide an immersive experience.

Appendix:

Items Closed to Research and Copyrights

The personal records of J. K. Rowling from 1990-2021 (Series I; Subseries B; Sub-subseries 1) are to research closed until her death.

The Warner Bros. Archive does not hold the copyright to any of the items in the Harry Potter and the Wizarding World Collection (1965-2021), and Warner Bros. Entertainment, Inc. does not hold the copyright to any of the personal records of J. K. Rowling, including written documents, voice recordings, home videos, or anything else created by Rowling outside of a contract with WB.

Corpus

The Harry Potter and the Wizarding World Collection may be accessed by using a USC assigned email to open the Google Folder.